2nd March 1955]

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" (a) & (b) There has been no recent enhancement in the rate of surcharge collected by the South Arcot Electricity Distribution Company, Limited, from their consumers. However, the licensee has been permitted to increase his tariffs applicable to all H.T. consumers and L.T. agricultural consumers by 10 per cent with effect from the date of taking meter readings in November 1954, in accordance with the provisions of the Electricity (Supply) Act, 1948. A copy of the resolutions passed at a special meeting of the agricultural and other electricity consumers held on 6th November 1954 at Cuddalore, protesting against the 10 per cent increase in the tariff referred to above, among others, was received by Government. The position was explained to the convener of the special meeting on 24th January 1955."

SRI S. DAIVASIGAMONEY :—" The surcharge of 10 per cent was levied as a sort of temporary war measure. But now it has become a permanent feature. May I know whether there is any proposal to give up this surcharge on electricity? "

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" This does not arise out of the main question. A separate question may be put."

Project Advisory Committee, Malabar

* 1024 *Q.*—SRI K. P. GOPALAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state how many times the Project Advisory Committee in Malabar met since it was formed?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" Vide answer to clause (b) of question No. 925 given in the Assembly on 26th February 1955."

SRI K. P. GOPALAN :—" May I know whether the Government have instructed the authorities in Malabar that at least in future they should convene the meeting of the Project Advisory Committee more often and also take the suggestions and opinions of the non-official members of the Committee so that the work may be carried out in good order? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" The Government have instructed the officers concerned that they should hold periodical meetings and also take the advice and suggestions of the non-official members. But they could not be expected to accept invariably all the suggestions."

Reorganization of Revenue Administration

* 1025 *Q.*—SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether the District Revenue Administration Reorganization Committee has submitted its report to the Government; and

(b) if so, the action taken thereon?